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Director of Central Intelligence

JUN 15 1948

Assistant Director, Reports and Estimates

CIA Representation on Interdepartmental Petroleum Committee

1. I am of the opinion that Central Intelligence Agency would derive substantial benefit from representation on the Interdepartmental Petroleum Committee. It would facilitate ORK's keeping in close touch with our Government's top level oil policies and operations and enable us to arrive at more realistic estimates of the petroleum situation in foreign countries.

2. Moreover, membership on the Interdepartmental Petroleum Committee should serve as a guide to ORK as to the production of intelligence considered useful by that Committee and provide us with an opportunity to make special foreign oil studies having a significant bearing on the national security.

3. Members of the Interdepartmental Petroleum Committee for the National Security Resources Board, Army, Navy, Air Forces, State, etc., must observe the security regulations of their respective agencies while taking part in the work of the Committee. Our member would be expected to conduct himself with equal discretion.

4. In general, ORK personnel have in the past confined their participation in interagency committee work to those groups concerned primarily with intelligence activities. In this instance, however, I feel that the broader perspective of the Interdepartmental Petroleum Committee would be very helpful to our Petroleum Specialist in the discharge of his duties.

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5. [redacted] by reason of past experience, present assignment, and knowledge of the Government's activities, is well qualified to represent Central Intelligence Agency on the Interdepartmental Petroleum Committee. Since 1939 he has served successively as

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Consultants Panel.

6. It is recommended, therefore, that the attached letter to Mr. Max Ball, Director of the Oil and Gas Division, Department of Interior, be approved and signed.

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S/PP/ [redacted] /mem

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THEODORE RABBITT

Proposed Letter to Mr. Max Ball, re CIA

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Representation on Interdepartmental Petroleum Committee.~~RESTRICTED~~

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